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ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF
GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES
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MEASURES TAKEN AND PROPOSED TO IMPLEMENT UNITED NATIONS
RESOLUTIONS ON THE STANDARDIZATION OF GEOGRAPHICAL NAMES

State Names Authorities of the United States of America

Paper submitted by the United States of America**

* E/CONF.91/1

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State Names Authorities
of the
United States of America

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The mission of the U.S. Board on Geographic Names as prescribed by law is to standardize geographical nomenclature and orthography throughout the Federal government. Of paramount importance to the Federal government in the standardization process is local use and acceptance. Therefore, in order to achieve a desired level of local recommendation for geographical names in the United States, the Federal government encourages the formation of committees to make recommendations on behalf of the local and State governments.

Problems and requirements vary from State to State, and therefore, the composition and structure as well as the policies and procedures of each State names authority varies. The attached list of States, territories, and outlying areas presents the type of State names authority and its primary membership or composition. Where more than one category is indicated, joint sponsorship is recognized. In the eight States where there is presently no formal authority, the Federal Board's staff deals directly with the local jurisdiction or when official local recommendations are divided, the State's governor's office is asked to make a recommendation.